

## Elizabeth Waddell

*Air Resources Specialist*



Elizabeth Waddell brings 25 years of experience in the atmospheric science community to her newly created position in the NPS Air Resources Division. Her previous work with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and her many contacts with state air quality agencies have already enabled

her, during her first year on the job, to build partnerships and to enhance the role of the National Park Service with state and federal regulators. As a result, the National Park Service now has a stronger presence on a number of technical and policy forums in the Northwest, including the Northwest International Air Quality Environmental Science and Technology Center and EPA Region 10's Office of Air Quality Leadership Team. Partnering has already benefited one park in particular: Elizabeth was able to obtain substantial funding to provide ultra-low-sulfur diesel fuel and to retrofit diesel equipment at Mount Rainier National Park (Washington) with catalysts or filters to reduce air pollution.

Elizabeth has long been interested in working with air resources in the National Park Service. As she tells it, "Over a decade ago, I met the air resources coordinator for the Pacific Northwest Region of the Park Service, Shirley Clark. At the time, I was working for EPA providing support for air toxics research and regulatory development by the state air agencies in the Northwest. As we talked, I learned about Shirley's role in evaluating and promoting research into air quality impacts on the parks, as well as her regulatory role under the Clean Air Act as a federal land manager. I concluded that she had the best job in the world. I am amazed and thrilled that, through funding from the Natural Resource Challenge, I now have that job! I am looking forward to continuing to build partnerships that will enhance our ability to evaluate and address air quality impacts on our national parks." ■

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### PROFESSIONAL PROFILES air resources

## Michael George, M.S.

*Texas and Border Region Air Quality Coordinator*



Having worked in both the public and private sectors, Michael George brings 13 years of experience in air quality to the National Park Service. From his office in Austin, he now applies his expertise on behalf of 15 national parks in Texas and along the Mexican border. Before joining the National Park Service in 2003, Michael worked in the Air Quality

Division at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. In that position he managed technical programs that performed air quality monitoring and modeling and developed inventories of pollutant emissions.

His current air resources responsibilities encompass a broad range of technical and policy issues that make use of that experience. An example is his work with the Central States Regional Air Partnership, an organization of states and tribes that covers the central United States, stretching from Canada to Mexico, and assists its members in meeting the visibility requirements of the Clean Air Act. Michael's work with this organization helps to ensure that air quality planning in the region appropriately protects Class I area parks (the larger parks that are given additional air quality

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protection by the Clean Air Act). His participation in local air quality planning and technical activities is providing the parks with a more direct voice than has been the case in the past.

Michael has participated in a number of projects through the years in which the National Park Service has been a partner, and says, "I always enjoyed working with the Park Service people, so I looked forward to doing that full-time in this new position. I couldn't ask for a better opportunity." ■

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